



IPAO

NT-US035184

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: :
Nandkumar RANDGNEKAR et al. :
Serial No.: 10/740,925 : Patent Art Unit: 3612
Filed: December 22, 2003 : Examiner Patricia Lynn Engle
For: VEHICLE DOOR HINGE ASSEMBLY :
:

THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a ***Response to Restriction Requirement*** in the above-identified application:

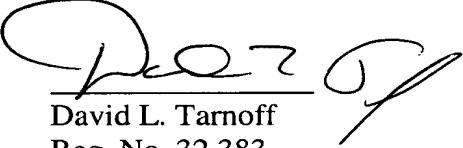
No additional fee is required.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1836. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Any additional excess claim fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.

Any additional patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17.

Dated: 11-10-04


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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

The restriction requirement dated October 14, 2004 holds that this application contains claims directed to two patentably distinct inventions. More specifically, Applicants are required to elect one of the following patentably distinct groups for prosecution on the merits under 35 U.S.C. §121:

Group I – Claims 1-23 (apparatus claims); and

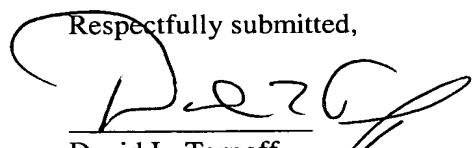
Group II – Claims 24-30 (method claims).

In response, Applicants hereby elect claims 1-23 (apparatus claims) ***without*** traverse. Thus, claims 24-30 can be withdrawn from consideration in this case.

* * *

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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